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# Robert Wallace Professional History at Cortland

State University of New York College at Cortland

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## **Robert H. Wallace '53**

Between 1958 and 1982, Bob Wallace guided the Cortland State baseball teams to a combined 366-207-3 record which included winning seasons in 24 of his 25 years. His Red Dragon teams captured an unprecedented 10 State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) championships, while also winning two ECAC titles and appearing in the 1981 NCAA playoffs.

Voted SUNYAC Baseball Coach of the Year on four different occasions, Wallace was chosen to coach the New York State Division II-III Baseball All-Stars against the Division I All-Stars in Shea Stadium in 1982. That same year, Wallace was selected to coach the New York Collegiate All-Stars against the New Jersey All-Stars. In 1982, Wallace received a 25-year award from the American Association of Baseball Coaches for his leadership and devotion to collegiate baseball.

Wallace taught 29 years on the Cortland Physical Education Department faculty before retiring in 1985. He was head varsity men's basketball coach, during the 1957-58 season and served two years as junior varsity basketball coach. Wallace spent 16 years on the football staff as a varsity assistant and head junior varsity coach.

During 1984 and 1985, Wallace coached the Cortland women's softball squad to records of 17-6 and 23-10, respectively. His 1985 unit won the NCAA East Regional title and advanced to the NCAA Division III World Series.

A native of Syracuse, NY, Wallace graduated from Onondaga Valley Academy. As a Cortland State undergraduate, he played three years of varsity football, assisted the varsity coaching staff as a senior, and played freshman baseball. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in physical education in 1953. He earned a master's degree from Cortland in 1967.

From 1953 to 1956, Wallace taught physical education and coached football, wrestling, track and volleyball at Painted Post (NY) High School.

Wallace and his wife, Sally Yaeger Wallace '53, were inducted into the Cortland College C-Club Hall of Fame in 1979. In 1973, he received the Cortland County Sports Award.

The Wallaces have traveled abroad extensively. While overseas, he coached the men's varsity basketball team at the Deutsche Sporthochschule to the West German University championship in 1971. In 1969, he was a guest lecturer in baseball at the Physical Education University in Amsterdam, Netherlands.